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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Congressman Christopher Shays to Convene September 29 Hearing on

Counterterrorism Technology: Picking Winners and Losers

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (CT-4), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, will convene an oversight hearing on September 29 to focus on the work of the Technical Support Working Group (TSWG), and its relationship with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in searching for new technology to benefit national security.

The Technical Support Working Group (TSWG), an interagency process jointly under the direction of the departments of State and Defense, is expected to play an important role in identifying, assessing, and funding the rapid prototype of many worthwhile counterterrorism and homeland security technologies. Participation in TSWG is open to all defense organizations, federal departments and agencies. Currently, over 80 organizations in nine departments and numerous agencies across the federal government participate in TSWG through representatives.

"We're literally awash in proposals for technical solutions to homeland security threats," Shays said, "We need to be sure only the most promising technologies are being assessed and funded, and we need to know how much the Department of Homeland Security can use the TSWG process to get that job done."

The hearing will convene at 2:00 p.m. in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.

Witness List

Panel I

Mr. Michael A. Jakub

Director of Technical Programs, Office of the Coordinator for Counterterrorism Department of State

Mr. Edward McCallum

Director, Combating Terrorism Technology Support Office Department of Defense

Dr. David Bolka

Director of the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA)

Department of Homeland Security

Panel II

Dr. Gordhan Patel

President, JP Laboratories Middlesex, NJ

Mr. Jack Sarwicki

Director of Business Development GEOMET Technologies, LLC Germantown, MD

Mr. Lee F. Sword

Program Manager, Military Systems Division, i Robot Corporation Burlington, MA

Mr. Richard W. Sesnewicz

Vice President, Business Development, American Science and Engineering, Inc. Billerica, MA

Mr. Bruce deGrazia

Chairman, Homeland Security Industries Association (HSIA) Washington, DC

Mr. Kenneth P. Ducey

President, Markland Technologies, Inc. Ridgefield, CT

Mr. Laurence D. BorevVice

Vice President, Federal Government Relations, HDR, Inc. Orlando, FL